



Inhalants





Learning Objectives

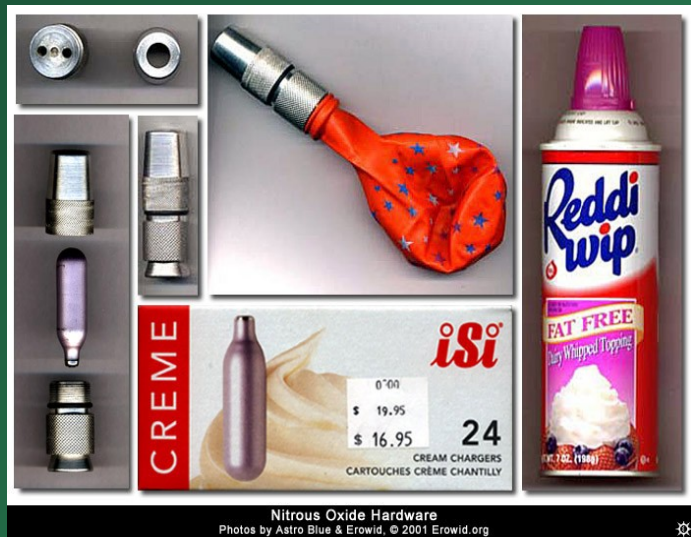
- Identify the three classes of inhalants.
- Identify the types of inhalants that are abused.





What are Inhalants?

- Breathable chemical vapors that produce mind altering effects.
- There are three types of inhalants
 - Solvents
 - Gases
 - Nitrites
- Street names include *poppers, snappers, ozone.*



Nitrous Oxide Hardware
Photos by Astro Blue & Erowid, © 2001 Erowid.org





How are Inhalants Abused?

- Inhalants are ingested into the body by breathing in the vapors of the product. Several methods of inhalation can be used by abusers:
 - Using a bag
 - Using a rag
 - Using pressurized containers





Effects of Inhalants

- **Chronic Memory Loss**
- **Emotional Instability**
- **Slurred Speech**
- **Body Tremors**
- **Sight Disorders**
- **Liver Damage**
- **Hearing Loss**
- **Kidney Damage**
- **Bone Marrow Damage**
- **Paralysis**
- **Brain Damage**
- **Sudden Sniffing Death**





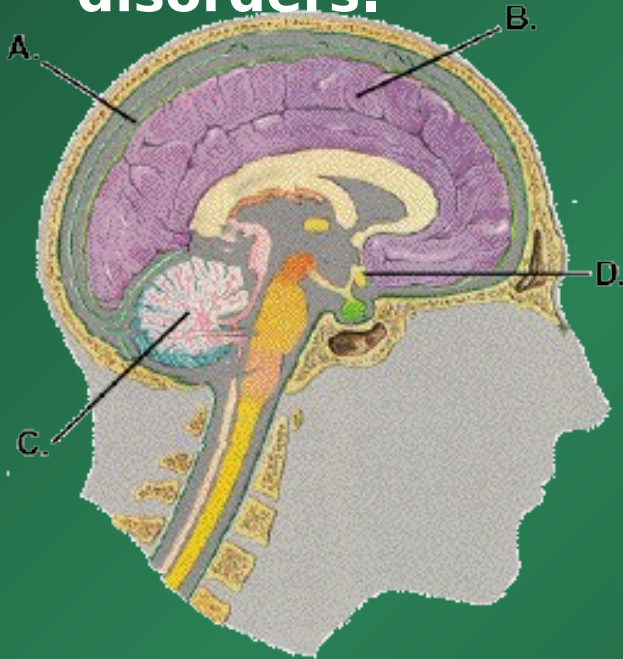
Inhalants & Brain Damage

A. **Brain** - Inhalants abuse causes a variety of serious sensory and psychological disorders.

B. **Cerebral Cortex** - Inhalant abuse causes personality changes, memory loss, hallucinations, and learning disabilities.

C. **Cerebellum** - Inhalant abuse causes loss of coordination, slurred speech, chronic tremors, and uncontrollable shaking.

D. **Ophthalmic Nerve** - Inhalant abuse can cause serious sight disorders, including blindness.





Products Abused

- Rubber Cement
- Hair Spray
- Fabric Protector
- Chloroform
- Paint Thinner
- White Out
- Whippets



- Toxic Markers
- Lighter Fluid
- Gasoline
- Octane Booster
- Nitrous Oxide
- Room Deodorizer
- Helium





Additional Information

Additional information on inhalants can be found by contacting the Army Substance Abuse Program or by visiting www.acsap.army.mil.





WARRIOR

- P**ersonal **Courage:** Possess the Personal Courage not to use drugs or abuse alcohol and to notify the Chain of Command of Soldiers that do.
- R**espect: Show your Respect to the Army, your unit, fellow Soldiers, and yourself by staying drug free and drinking responsibly.
- I**ntegrity: Stay true to the Army Values and Warrior Ethos by supporting the Army's drug and alcohol policies.
- D**uty: Do your duty as a Soldier and stay mentally and physically tough by not using drugs or abusing alcohol.
- E**xcellence: Exhibit honorable behavior on and off duty - don't be a substance abuser!